

From: Jeremy Ellington
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 11:18am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed Microsoft settlement. Specifically, I find the settlement lacking in its address of Microsoft's behavior towards not-for-profit organizations. Some of Microsoft's biggest competitors in the software world (Apache, SAMBA, Sendmail, etc) are maintained by non-profit organizations. The language of the settlement makes it clear that Microsoft would not have to provide documentation or license APIs or communication protocols affecting authentication and authorization to companies that don't meet Microsoft's criteria as a business. See Section III(J)(2). Of course, the non-profit organizations competing with Microsoft will not meet this criteria. This is entirely unreasonable. These organizations are the biggest threats to Microsoft's monopoly, and they should be given the opportunity to compete.

This is just one example of how the Microsoft settlement does not go far enough to address the stranglehold Microsoft has on the entire software community.

Sincerely,
Jeremy Ellington